CHARLTON COMICS
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ALL NEW
E-MAN
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NO. 5
NOV.
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STATON
THE CITY SWALLOWER!
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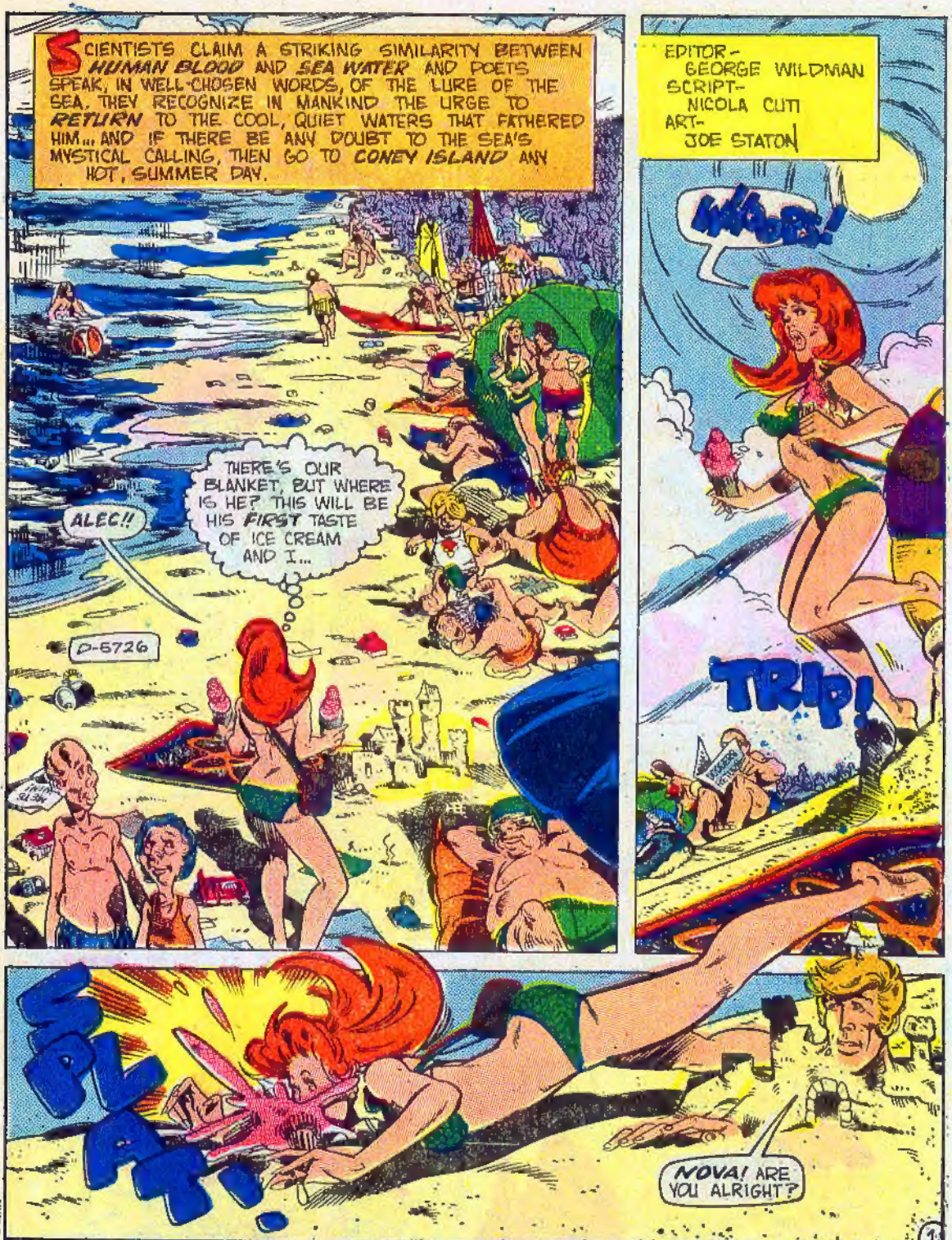
SCIENTISTS CLAIM A STRIKING SIMILARITY BETWEEN HUMAN BLOOD AND SEA WATER AND POETS SPEAK, IN WELL-CHOSEN WORDS, OF THE LURE OF THE SEA. THEY RECOGNIZE IN MANKIND THE URGE TO RETURN TO THE COOL, QUIET WATERS THAT FATHERED HIM... AND IF THERE BE ANY DOUBT TO THE SEA'S MYSTICAL CALLING, THEN GO TO CONEY ISLAND ANY HOT, SUMMER DAY.
ALEC!!
THERE'S OUR BLANKET, BUT WHERE IS HE? THIS WILL BE HIS FIRST TASTE OF ICE CREAM AND I...
D-5726
EDITOR- GEORGE WILDMAN
SCRIPT- NICOLA CUTI
ART- JOE STATON
WHOOSH!
TRIP!
SMASH
NOVA! ARE YOU ALRIGHT?
1

E-MAN Vol. 2, No. 5, November, 1974,
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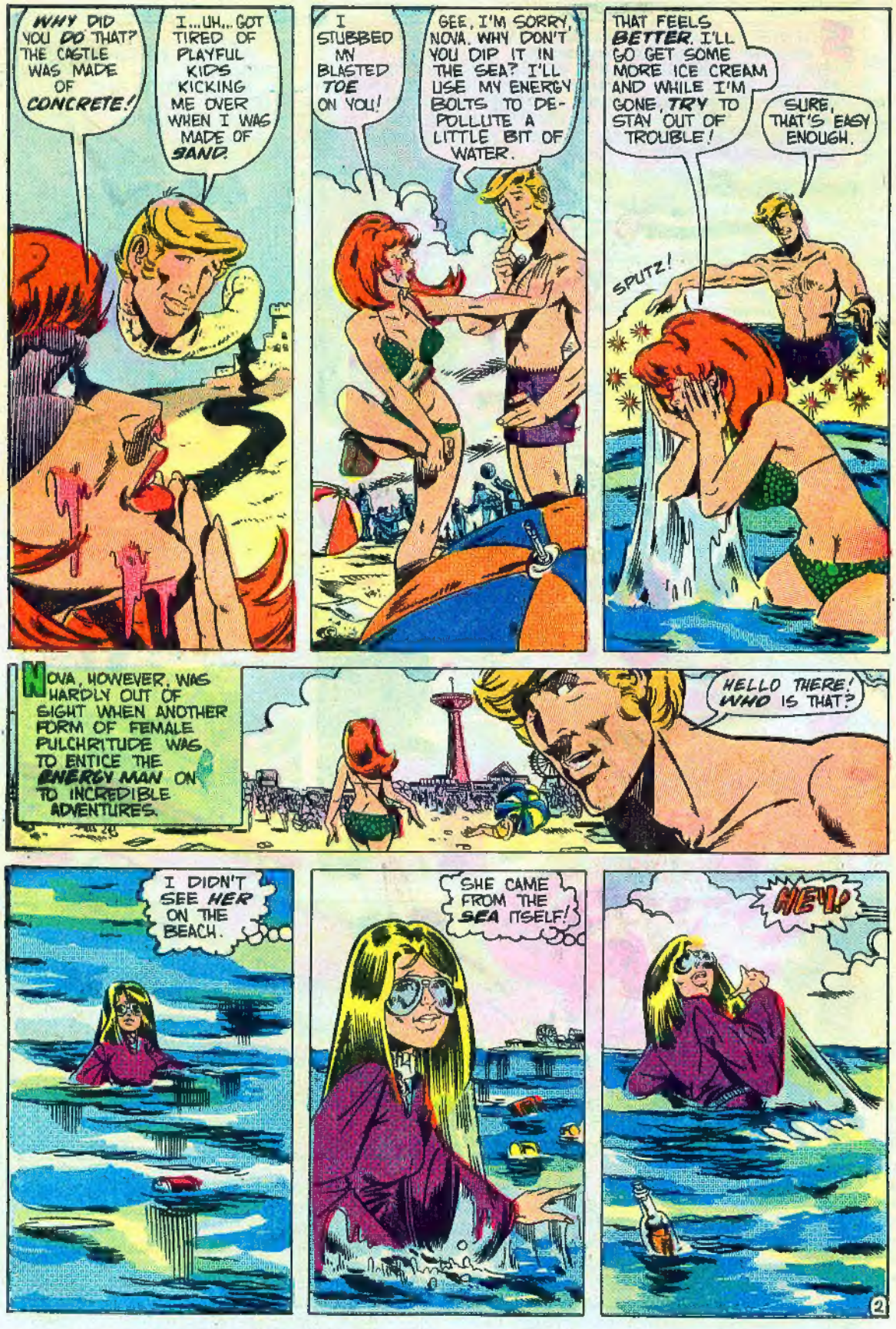
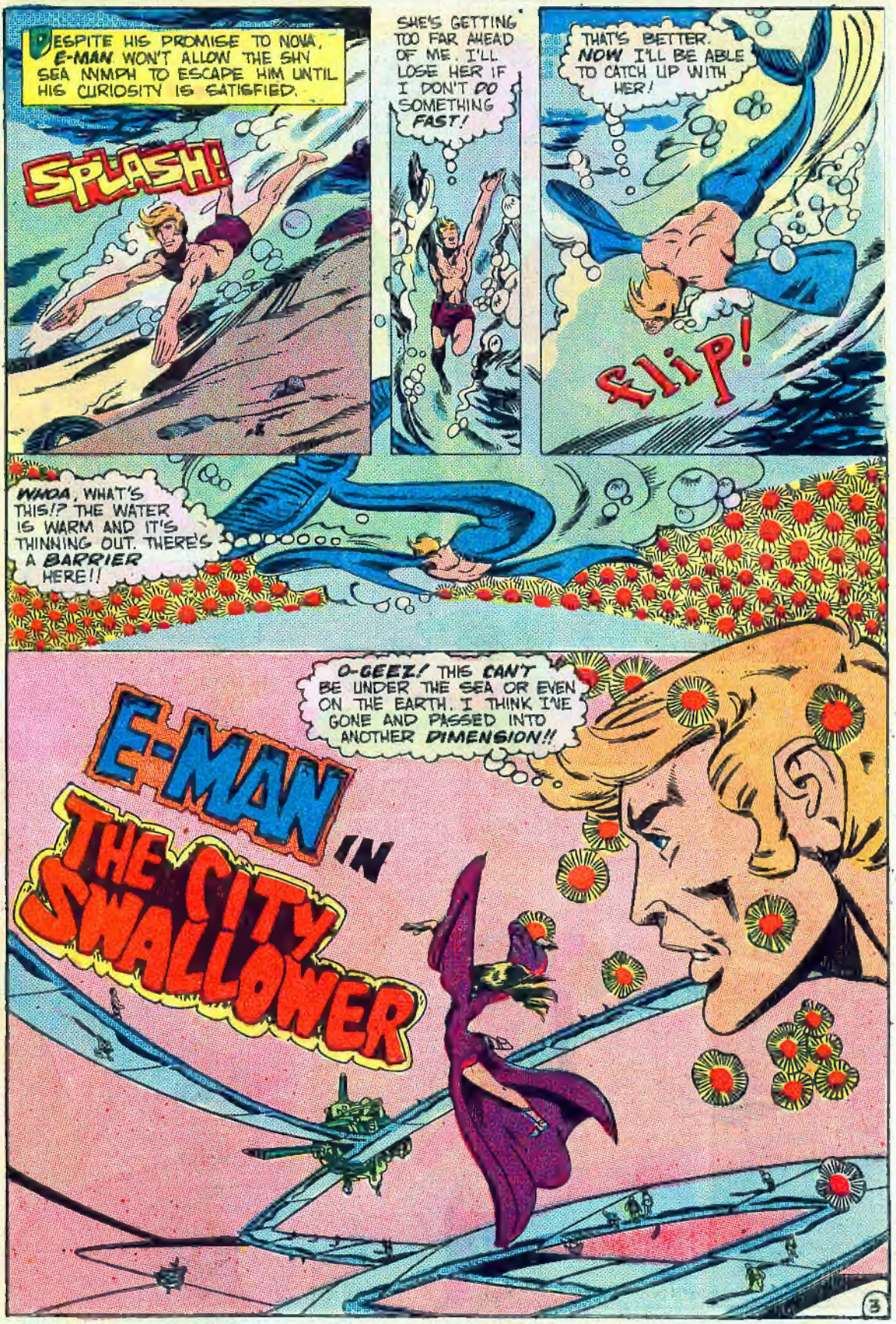

WHY DID YOU DO THAT? THE CASTLE WAS MADE OF CONCRETE!
I...UH... GOT TIRED OF PLAYFUL KIDS KICKING ME OVER WHEN I WAS MADE OF SAND.
I STUBBED MY BLASTED TOE ON YOU!
GEE, I'M SORRY, NOVA. WHY DON'T YOU DIP IT IN THE SEA? I'LL USE MY ENERGY BOLTS TO DE-POLLUTE A LITTLE BIT OF WATER.
THAT FEELS BETTER. I'LL GO GET SOME MORE ICE CREAM AND WHILE I'M GONE, TRY TO STAY OUT OF TROUBLE!
SURE, THAT'S EASY ENOUGH.
SPLITZ!
NOVA, HOWEVER, WAS HARDLY OUT OF SIGHT WHEN ANOTHER FORM OF FEMALE PULCHRITUDE WAS TO ENTICE THE ENERGY MAN ON TO INCREDIBLE ADVENTURES.
HELLO THERE! WHO IS THAT?
I DIDN'T SEE HER ON THE BEACH.
SHE CAME FROM THE SEA ITSELF!
HEY!


DESPITE HIS PROMISE TO NOVA, E-MAN WON'T ALLOW THE SHY SEA NYMPH TO ESCAPE HIM UNTIL HIS CURIOSITY IS SATISFIED.
SPLASH!
SHE'S GETTING TOO FAR AHEAD OF ME. I'LL LOSE HER IF I DON'T DO SOMETHING FAST!
THAT'S BETTER. NOW I'LL BE ABLE TO CATCH UP WITH HER!
SLIP!
WHOA, WHAT'S THIS!? THE WATER IS WARM AND IT'S THINNING OUT. THERE'S A BARRIER HERE!!
O-GEEZ! THIS CAN'T BE UNDER THE SEA OR EVEN ON THE EARTH. I THINK I'VE GONE AND PASSED INTO ANOTHER DIMENSION!!
E-MAN IN THE CITY SWALLOWER
3

AS THE MERMAID DESCENDS UPON ONE OF THE CITIES, SHE IS AWARE THAT THE OTHER-WORLDER IS STILL IN CLOSE PURSUIT.
PETER! PETER! HELP ME!
DON'T RUN AWAY! I WON'T HURT YOU!
HOLD IT, BUDDY! FREEZE!!
DON'T GET TRIGGER-HAPPY, AMIGO. I'M A FRIEND FROM ACROSS THE BORDER.
AT LEAST THAT'S WHAT THEY SAY IN THOSE T.V. WESTERNS!
I WENT THROUGH THE BARRIER AGAIN, PETER, INTO THE LAND WORLD, AND THIS FOLLOWED ME BACK.
I DIDN'T MEAN ANY HARM. I WAS JUST CURIOUS.
I GUESS YOU'RE OKAY. I'M PETER BOLD AND THIS IS HEIDI
I'M CALLED E-MAN.
PETER, I'D BETTER GET HOME BEFORE MOM AND DAD HAVE FITS. SHOW OUR VISITOR AROUND THE CITY.
OKAY... AND... UH, BE CAREFUL.

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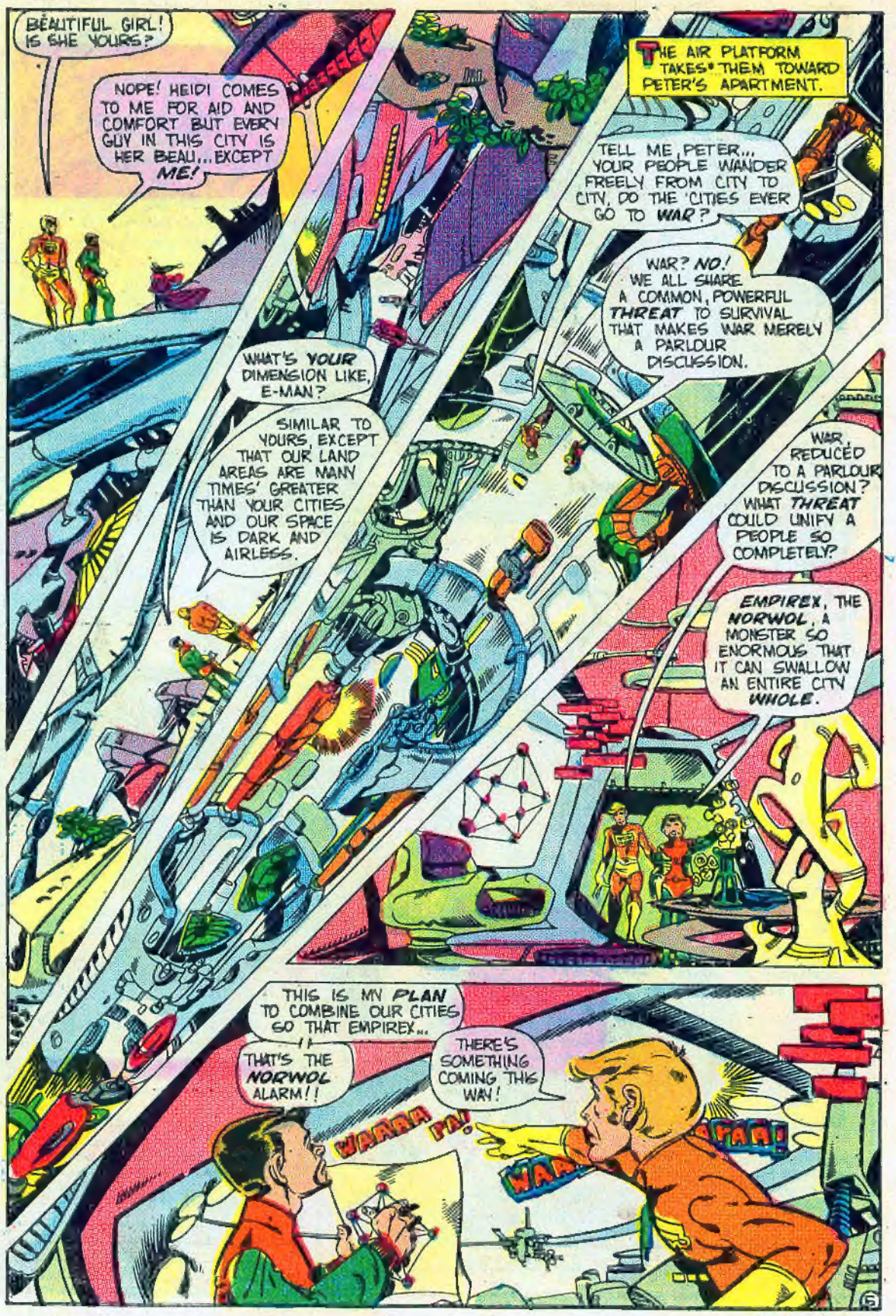
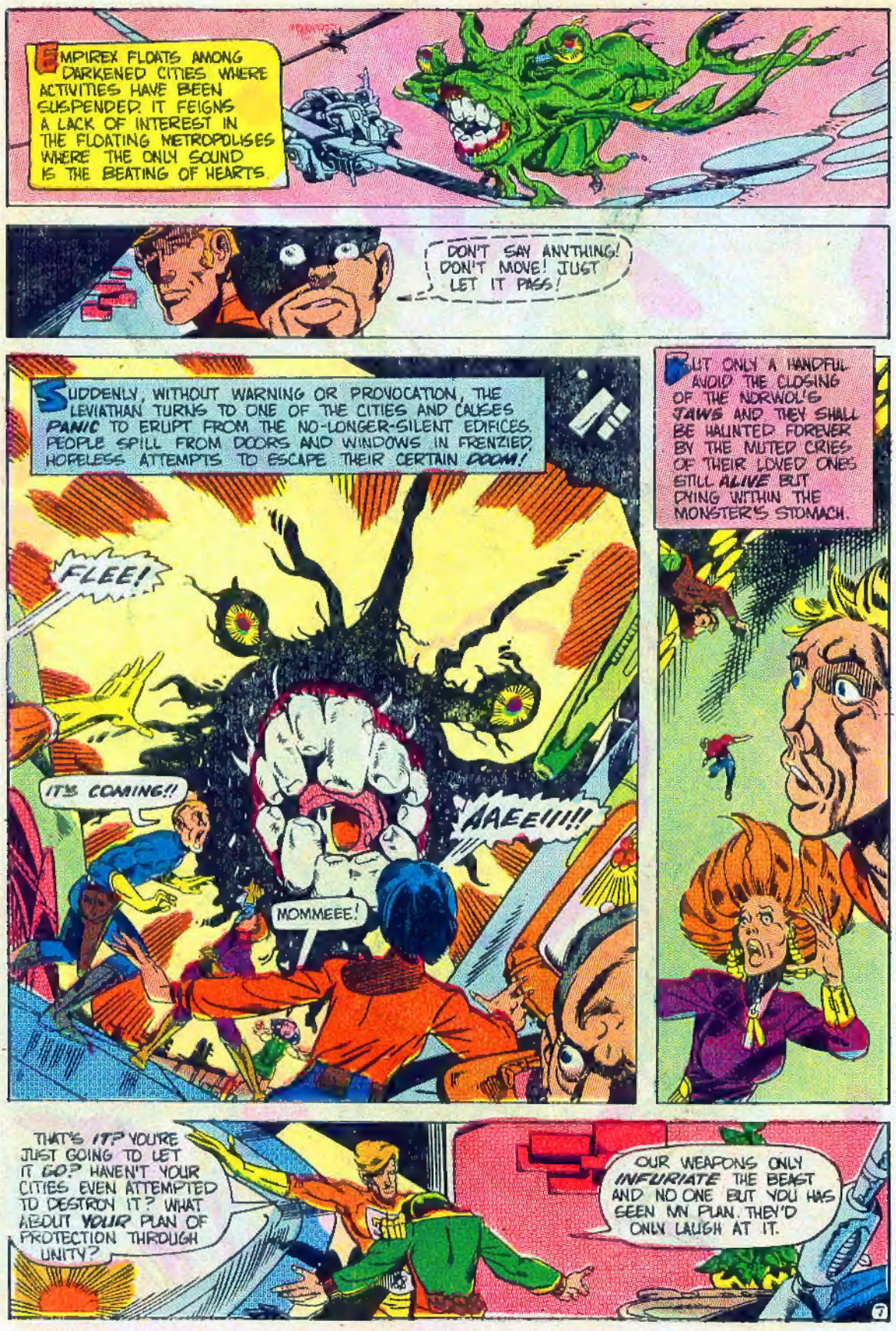
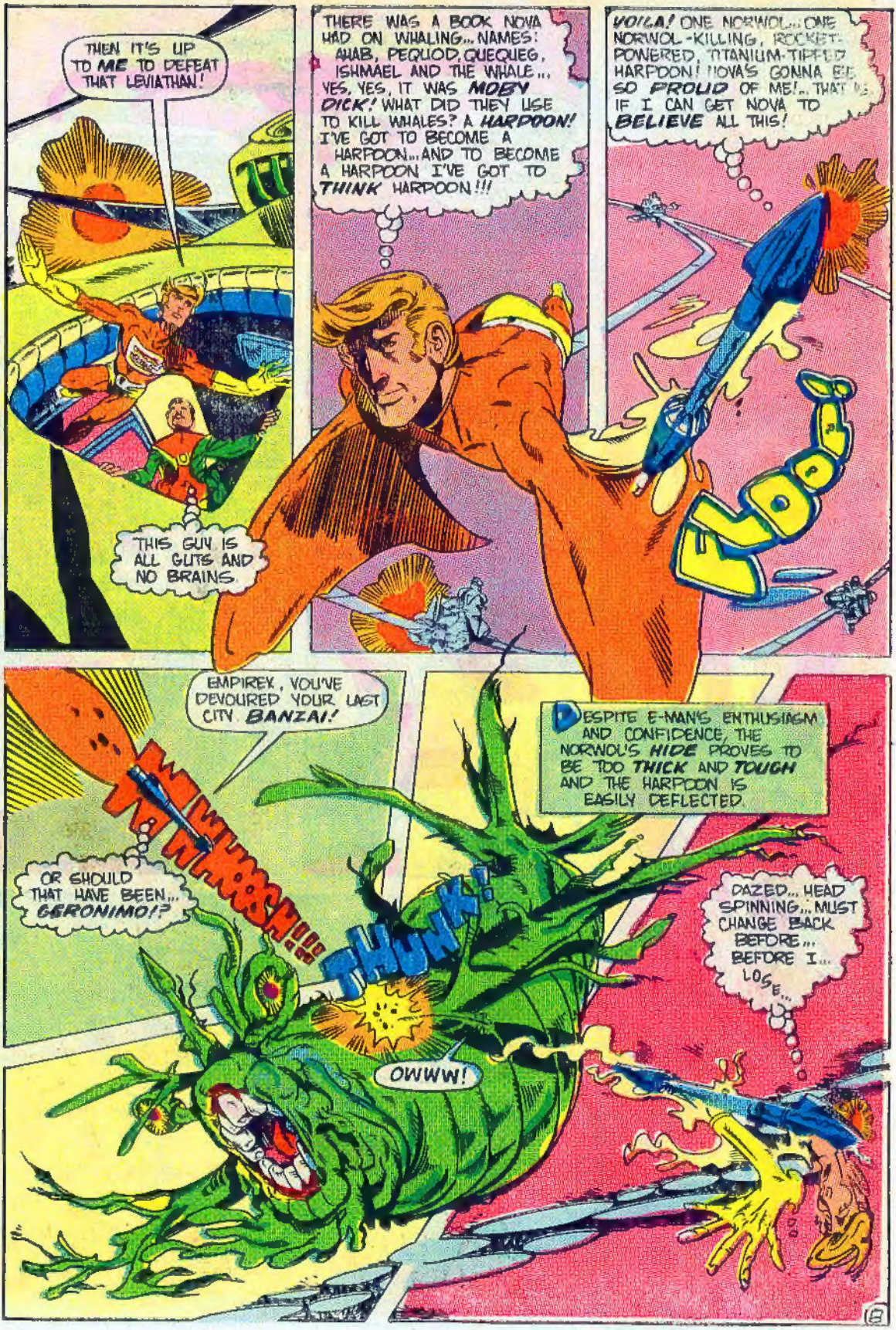

BEAUTIFUL GIRL! IS SHE YOURS?
NOPE! HEIDI COMES TO ME FOR AID AND COMFORT BUT EVERY GUY IN THIS CITY IS HER BEAU... EXCEPT ME!
THE AIR PLATFORM TAKES THEM TOWARD PETER'S APARTMENT.
TELL ME, PETER... YOUR PEOPLE WANDER FREELY FROM CITY TO CITY, DO THE CITIES EVER GO TO WAR?
WAR? NO! WE ALL SHARE A COMMON, POWERFUL THREAT TO SURVIVAL THAT MAKES WAR MERELY A PARLOUR DISCUSSION.
WHAT'S YOUR DIMENSION LIKE, E-MAN?
SIMILAR TO YOURS, EXCEPT THAT OUR LAND AREAS ARE MANY TIMES GREATER THAN YOUR CITIES AND OUR SPACE IS DARK AND AIRLESS.
WAR, REDUCED TO A PARLOUR DISCUSSION? WHAT THREAT COULD UNIFY A PEOPLE SO COMPLETELY?
EMPIREX, THE NORWOL, A MONSTER SO ENORMOUS THAT IT CAN SWALLOW AN ENTIRE CITY WHOLE.
THIS IS MY PLAN TO COMBINE OUR CITIES SO THAT EMPIREX...
THAT'S THE NORWOL ALARM!!
THERE'S SOMETHING COMING THIS WAY!
WAAAA
PA!
PAA!
WAA


EMPIREX FLOATS AMONG DARKENED CITIES WHERE ACTIVITIES HAVE BEEN SUSPENDED. IT FEIGNS A LACK OF INTEREST IN THE FLOATING METROPOLISES WHERE THE ONLY SOUND IS THE BEATING OF HEARTS.
DON'T SAY ANYTHING! DON'T MOVE! JUST LET IT PASS!
SUDDENLY, WITHOUT WARNING OR PROVOCATION, THE LEVIATHAN TURNS TO ONE OF THE CITIES AND CAUSES PANIC TO ERUPT FROM THE NO-LONGER-SILENT EDIFICES. PEOPLE SPILL FROM DOORS AND WINDOWS IN FRENZIED, HOPELESS ATTEMPTS TO ESCAPE THEIR CERTAIN DOOM!
FLEE!
IT'S COMING!!
AAEE!!!!!
MOMMEEE!
BUT ONLY A HANDFUL AVOID THE CLOSING OF THE NORWOL'S JAWS AND THEY SHALL BE HAUNTED FOREVER BY THE MUTED CRIES OF THEIR LOVED ONES STILL ALIVE BUT DYING WITHIN THE MONSTER'S STOMACH.
THAT'S IT? YOU'RE JUST GOING TO LET IT GO? HAVEN'T YOUR CITIES EVEN ATTEMPTED TO DESTROY IT? WHAT ABOUT YOUR PLAN OF PROTECTION THROUGH UNITY?
OUR WEAPONS ONLY INFURIATE THE BEAST AND NO ONE BUT YOU HAS SEEN MY PLAN. THEY'D ONLY LAUGH AT IT.


THEN IT'S UP TO ME TO DEFEAT THAT LEVIATHAN!
THIS GUY IS ALL GUTS AND NO BRAINS.
THERE WAS A BOOK NOVA HAD ON WHALING... NAMES: AHAB, PEQUOD, QUEQUEG, ISHMAEL AND THE WHALE... YES, YES, IT WAS MOBY DICK! WHAT DID THEY USE TO KILL WHALES? A HARPOON! I'VE GOT TO BECOME A HARPOON... AND TO BECOME A HARPOON I'VE GOT TO THINK HARPOON!!!
VOILA! ONE NORWOL... ONE NORWOL-KILLING, ROCKET-POWERED, TITANIUM-TIPPED HARPOON! NOVA'S GONNA BE SO PROUD OF ME!... THAT IS IF I CAN GET NOVA TO BELIEVE ALL THIS!
FLOOP!
EMPIREX, YOU'VE DEVOURED YOUR LAST CITY. BANZAI!
DESPITE E-MAN'S ENTHUSIASM AND CONFIDENCE, THE NORWOL'S HIDE PROVES TO BE TOO THICK AND TOUGH AND THE HARPOON IS EASILY DEFLECTED.
WWHOOSH!!!
THUNK!
OR SHOULD THAT HAVE BEEN... GERONIMO!?
DAZED... HEAD SPINNING... MUST CHANGE BACK BEFORE... BEFORE I... LOSE...
OWWW!

IN HUMAN FORM, THE ENERGY-MAN'S PAIN INCREASES UNTIL HE MERCIFULLY DROPS TO UNCONSCIOUSNESS. HIS INSTINCTIVE CHANGE WAS AN ERROR BECAUSE HAD HE TAKEN HIS *ENERGY* FORM HE WOULD HAVE REMAINED PAINLESSLY AWAKE AND AWARE.

THERE HE IS!

WE'RE BREAKING THE LAW, HEIDI. THE POLICE ARE SUPPOSED TO PICK UP SURVIVORS.

IF YOU'RE *AFRAID* WHY DID YOU COME ALONG? ROG OR DAVI WOULD HAVE GLADLY DRIVEN THE CAR FOR ME.

THOSE MUSCLE-BOUND CREEPS COULDN'T NAVIGATE A SPOONFUL OF FOOD INTO THEIR MOUTHS. BESIDES I'M *NOT* AFRAID... I JUST RESPECT THE LAW.

ARE YOU ALRIGHT, E-MAN?

YEAH, I GUESS SO. I'M JUST STUNNED.

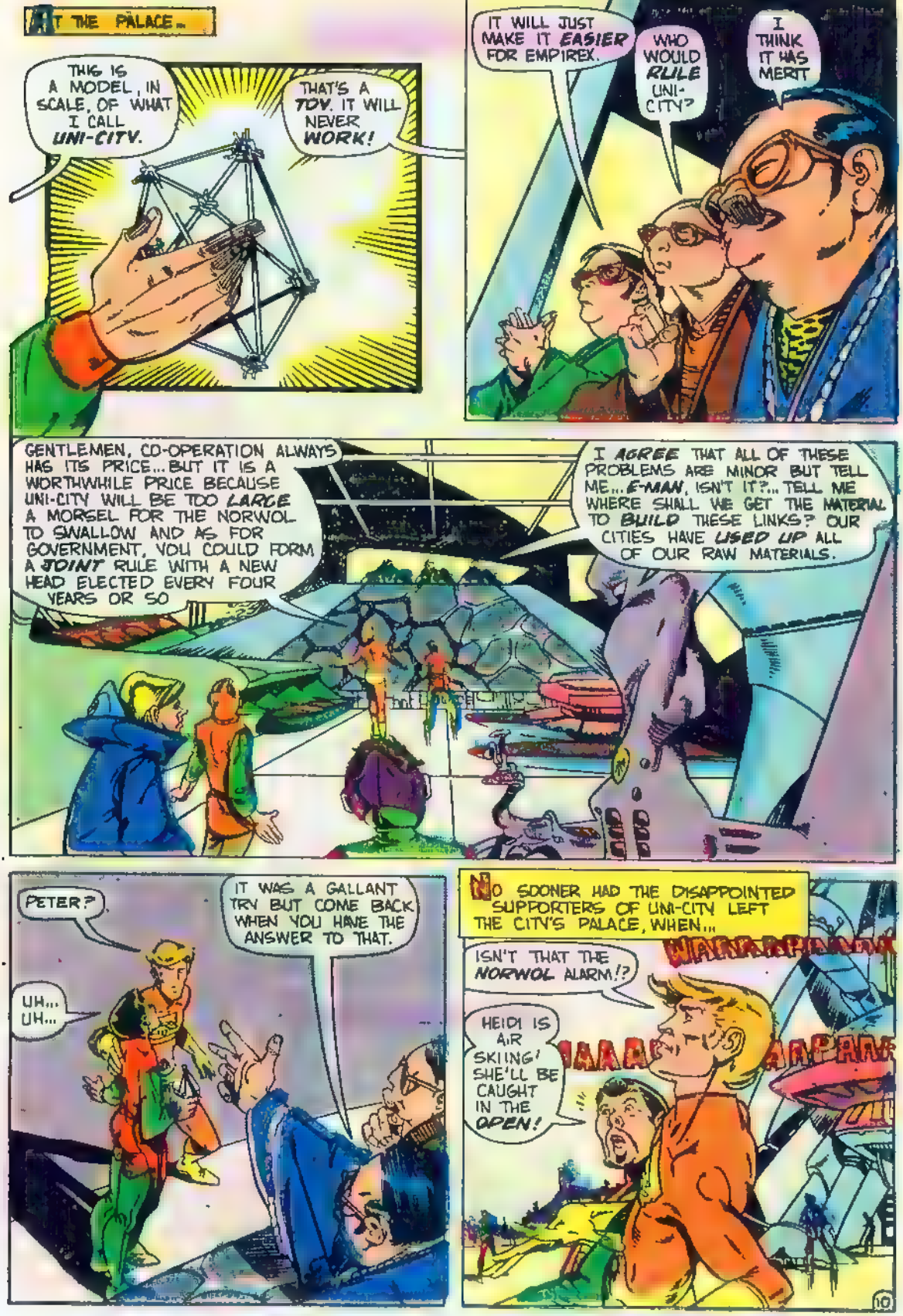
SHE HATES ME! SHE HATES ME AND SHE THINKS I'M A COWARD!

HEIDI, IS THERE A UNITED NATIONS OR SOME KIND OF CENTRAL MEETING PLACE FOR THE CITY *HEADS*?

YES, AS A MATTER OF FACT, THERE'S A MEETING GOING ON RIGHT AT THIS MOMENT AT MY DADDY'S PALACE. WHY?

BECAUSE PETER AND I ARE GOING TO PRESENT HIS *PLAN* TO YOUR LEADERS.

WE *ARE*?


AT THE PALACE...
THIS IS A MODEL, IN SCALE, OF WHAT I CALL UNI-CITY.
THAT'S A TOY. IT WILL NEVER WORK!
IT WILL JUST MAKE IT EASIER FOR EMPIREX.
WHO WOULD RULE UNI-CITY?
I THINK IT HAS MERIT
GENTLEMEN, CO-OPERATION ALWAYS HAS ITS PRICE... BUT IT IS A WORTHWHILE PRICE BECAUSE UNI-CITY WILL BE TOO LARGE A MORSEL FOR THE NORWOL TO SWALLOW AND AS FOR GOVERNMENT, YOU COULD FORM A JOINT RULE WITH A NEW HEAD ELECTED EVERY FOUR YEARS OR SO
I AGREE THAT ALL OF THESE PROBLEMS ARE MINOR BUT TELL ME... E-MAN, ISN'T IT?... TELL ME WHERE SHALL WE GET THE MATERIAL TO BUILD THESE LINKS? OUR CITIES HAVE USED UP ALL OF OUR RAW MATERIALS.
PETER?
IT WAS A GALLANT TRY BUT COME BACK WHEN YOU HAVE THE ANSWER TO THAT.
UH... UH...
NO SOONER HAD THE DISAPPOINTED SUPPORTERS OF UNI-CITY LEFT THE CITY'S PALACE, WHEN...
ISN'T THAT THE NORWOL ALARM!?
HEIDI IS AIR SKIING! SHE'LL BE CAUGHT IN THE OPEN!
10

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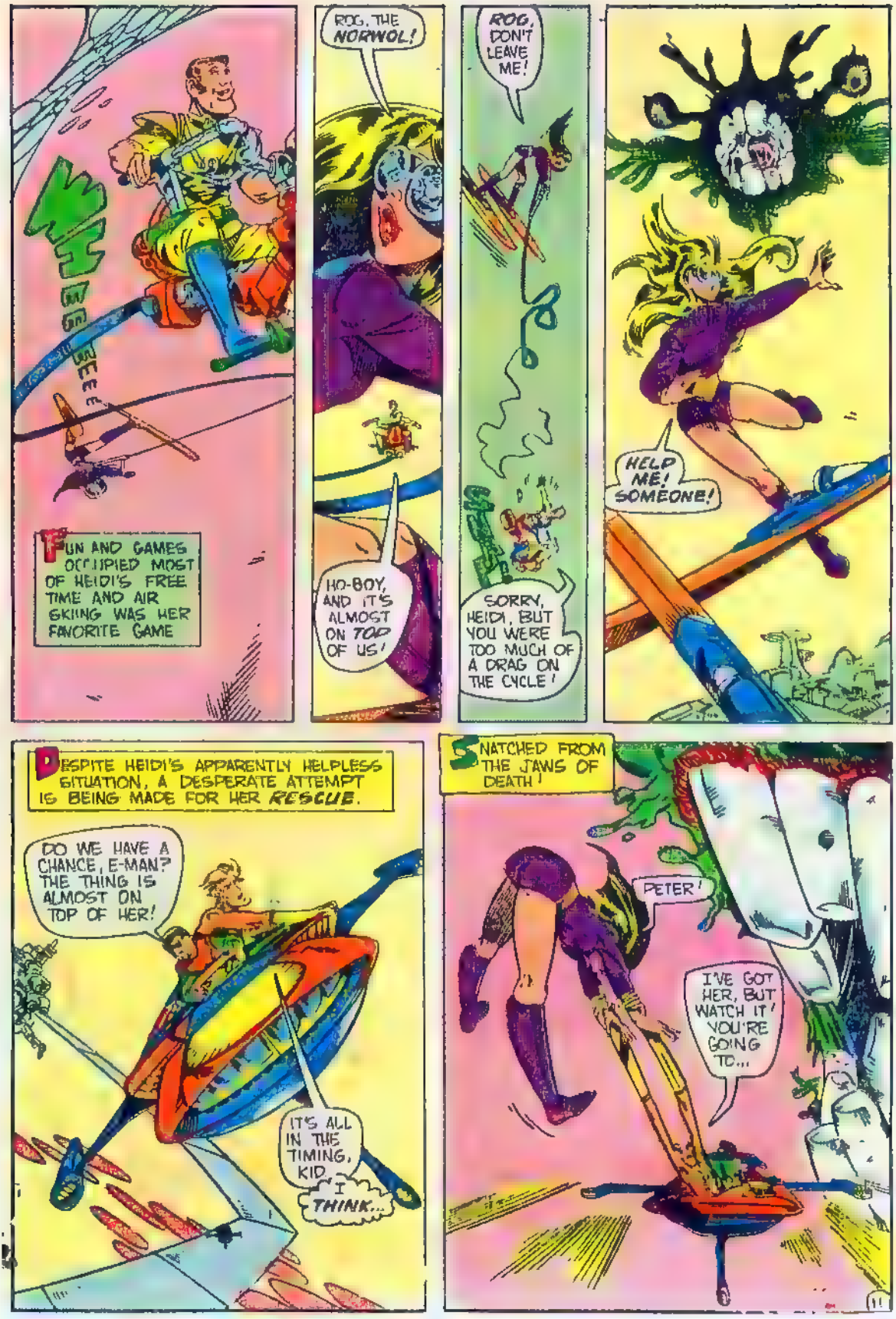
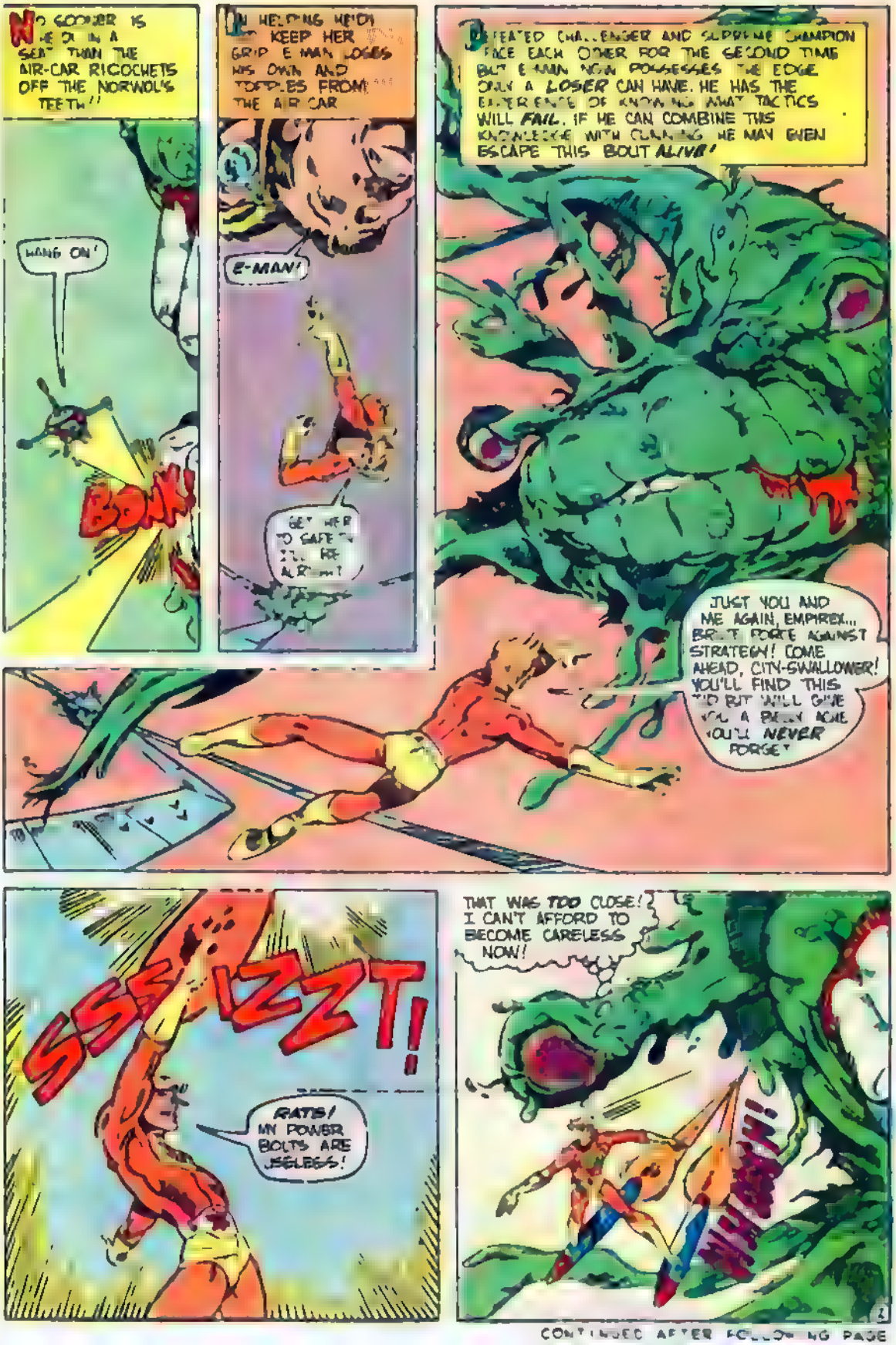

WHEEE
FUN AND GAMES OCCUPIED MOST OF HEIDI'S FREE TIME AND AIR SKIING WAS HER FAVORITE GAME
ROG, THE NORWOL!
HO-BOY, AND IT'S ALMOST ON TOP OF US!
ROG, DON'T LEAVE ME!
SORRY, HEIDI, BUT YOU WERE TOO MUCH OF A DRAG ON THE CYCLE!
HELP ME! SOMEONE!
DESPITE HEIDI'S APPARENTLY HELPLESS SITUATION, A DESPERATE ATTEMPT IS BEING MADE FOR HER RESCUE.
DO WE HAVE A CHANCE, E-MAN? THE THING IS ALMOST ON TOP OF HER!
IT'S ALL IN THE TIMING, KID... I THINK...
SNATCHED FROM THE JAWS OF DEATH!
PETER!
I'VE GOT HER, BUT WATCH IT! YOU'RE GOING TO...


NO SOONER IS HE IN A SEAT THAN THE AIR-CAR RICOCHETS OFF THE NORWOL'S TEETH!!
HANG ON!
BONK
IN HELPING HEIDI KEEP HER GRIP E-MAN LOSES HIS OWN AND TOPPLES FROM THE AIR CAR
E-MAN!
GET HER TO SAFETY I'LL BE ALRIGHT!
DEFEATED CHALLENGER AND SUPREME CHAMPION FACE EACH OTHER FOR THE SECOND TIME BUT E-MAN NOW POSSESSES THE EDGE ONLY A LOSER CAN HAVE. HE HAS THE EXPERIENCE OF KNOWING WHAT TACTICS WILL FAIL. IF HE CAN COMBINE THIS KNOWLEDGE WITH CUNNING HE MAY EVEN ESCAPE THIS BOUT ALIVE!
JUST YOU AND ME AGAIN, EMPIREX... BRUTE FORCE AGAINST STRATEGY! COME AHEAD, CITY-SWALLOWER! YOU'LL FIND THIS TIME BUT I'LL GIVE YOU A BEATING YOU'LL NEVER FORGET!
SSSSIZZT!
RATS! MY POWER BOLTS ARE USELESS!
THAT WAS TOO CLOSE! I CAN'T AFFORD TO BECOME CARELESS NOW!
CHOMP!
3

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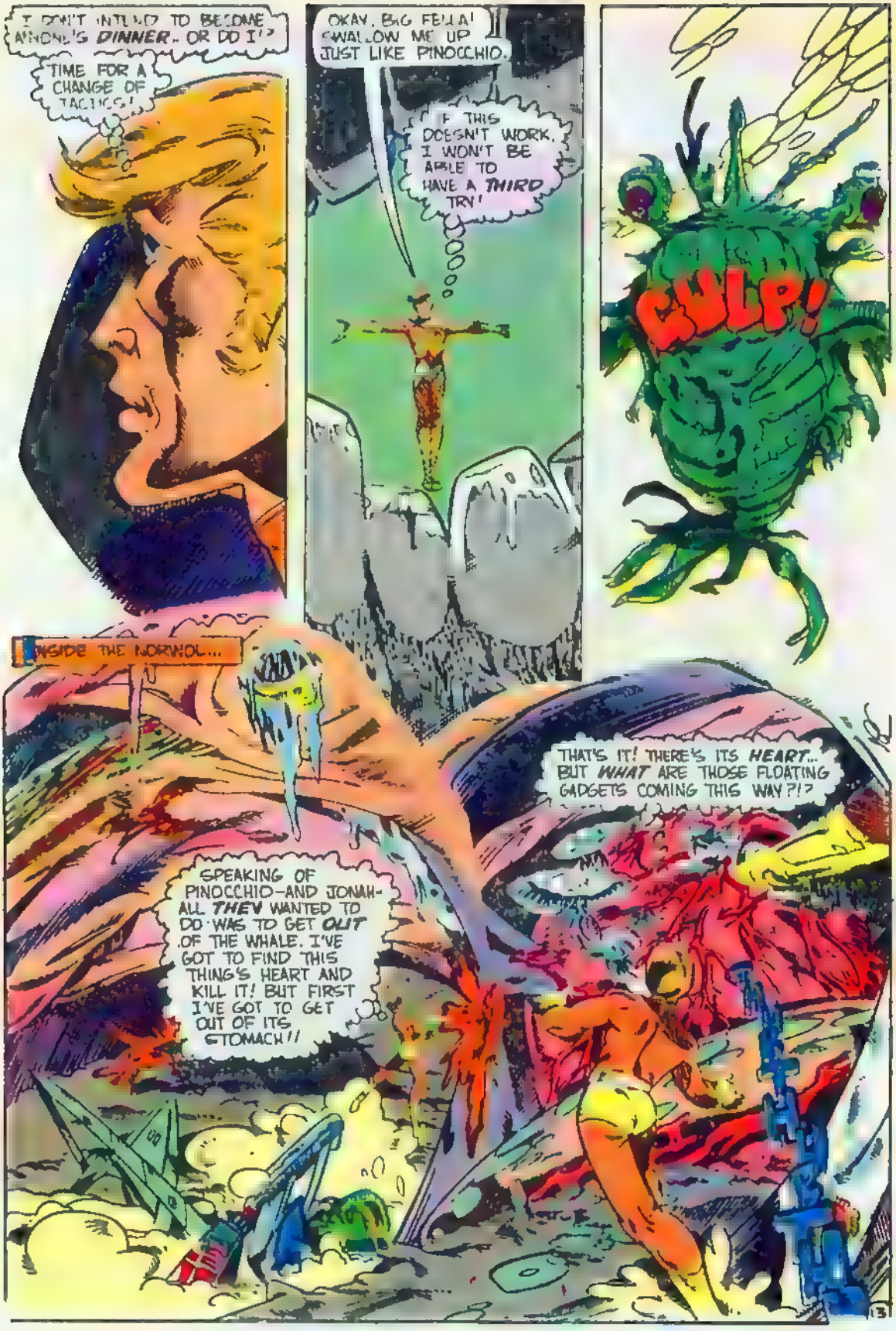
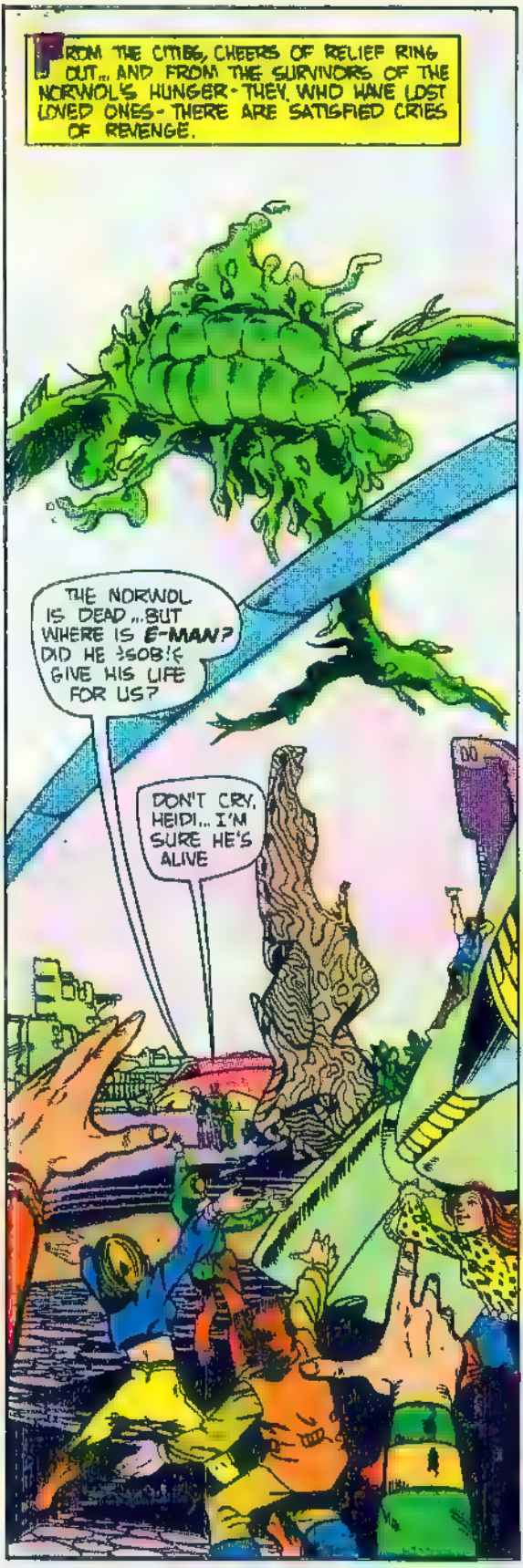
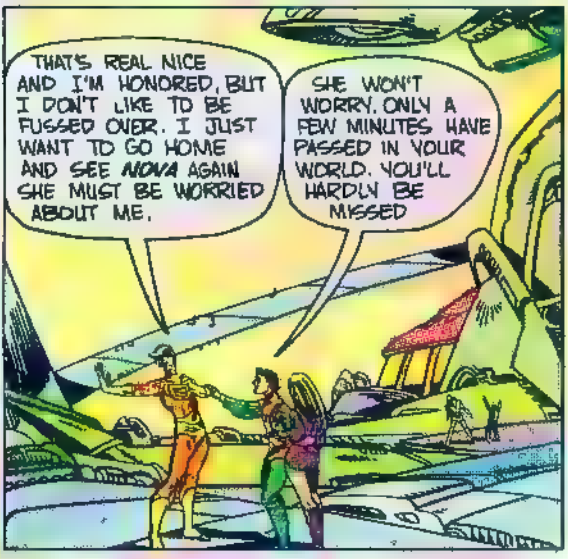
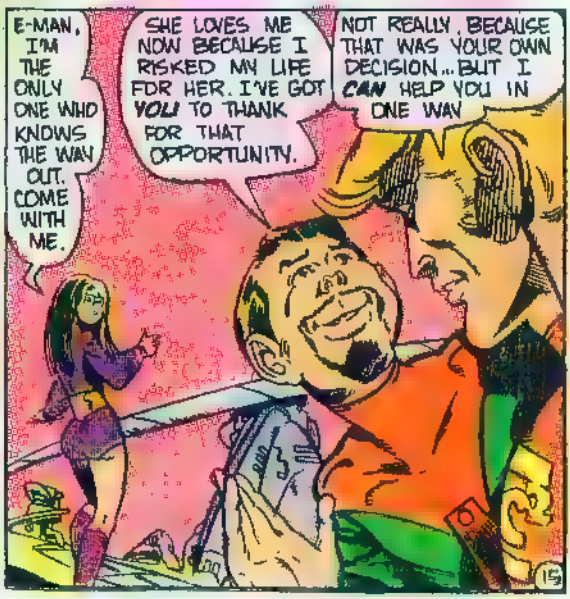

I DON'T INTEND TO BECOME ANYONE'S DINNER.. OR DO I'?
TIME FOR A CHANGE OF TACTICS!
OKAY, BIG FELLA! SWALLOW ME UP JUST LIKE PINOCCHIO.
IF THIS DOESN'T WORK, I WON'T BE ABLE TO HAVE A THIRD TRY!
GULP!
INSIDE THE NORNOL...
SPEAKING OF PINOCCHIO—AND JONAH— ALL THEY WANTED TO DO WAS TO GET OUT OF THE WHALE. I'VE GOT TO FIND THIS THING'S HEART AND KILL IT! BUT FIRST I'VE GOT TO GET OUT OF ITS STOMACH!!
THAT'S IT! THERE'S ITS HEART... BUT WHAT ARE THOSE FLOATING GADGETS COMING THIS WAY?!?
13

ARRRGH! ANTIBODIES! LIKE WHITE BLOOD CELLS!
THEY'RE DRAGGING ME DOWN... SUCKING THE ENERGY FROM ME LIKE LEECHES...
I'M GETTING WEAK... GOT TO KNOCK OUT THIS THING'S HEART...
GAAAAA
AAARRR....
POW!
A BELLOW IS HEARD FOR THE FIRST TIME FROM THE NORMALLY SOUNDLESS MONSTER...
AND THEN IT IS SILENT...
FOR ALL ETERNITY...
14

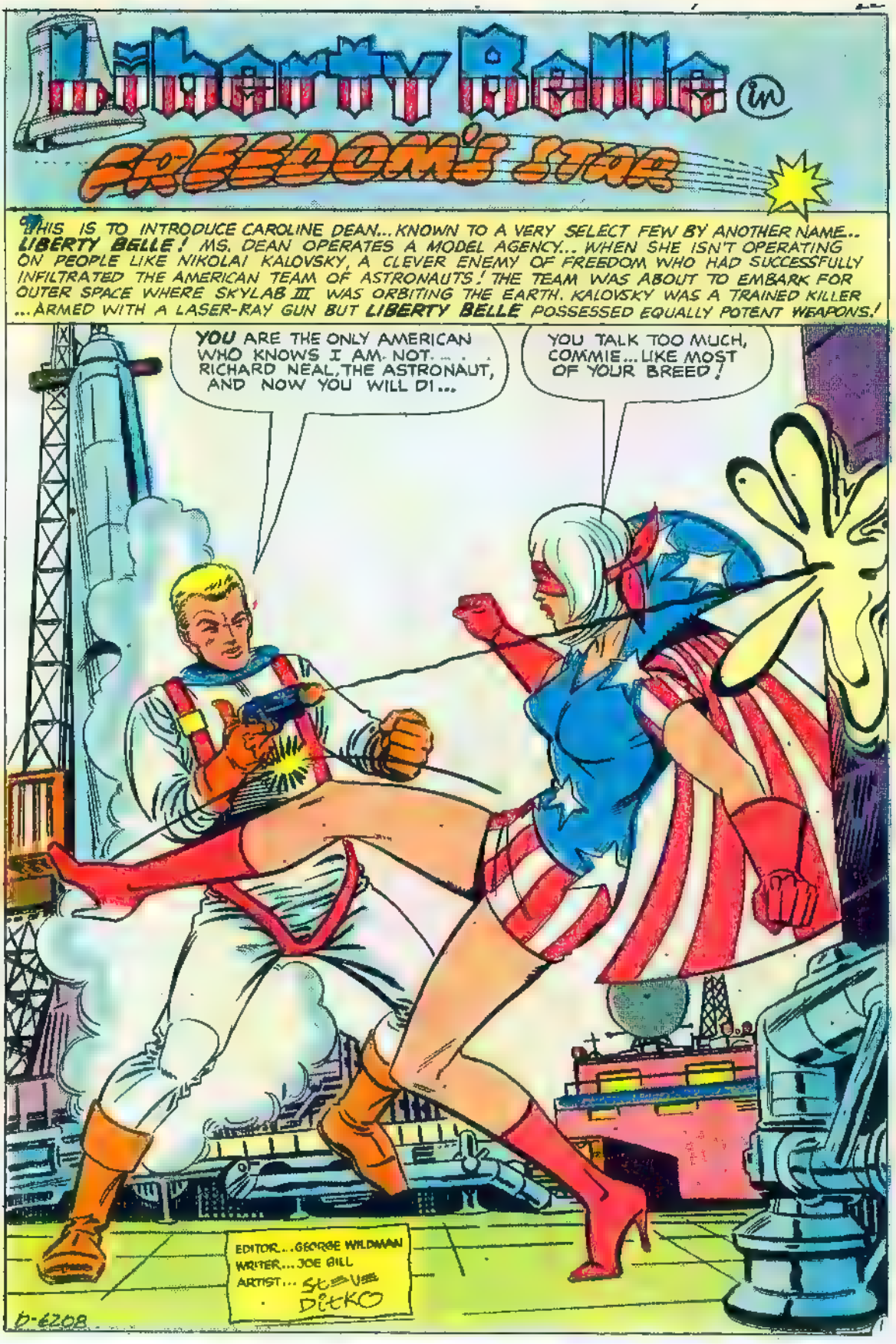

FROM THE CITIES, CHEERS OF RELIEF RING OUT... AND FROM THE SURVIVORS OF THE NORWOL'S HUNGER - THEY, WHO HAVE LOST LOVED ONES - THERE ARE SATISFIED CRIES OF REVENGE.
THE NORWOL IS DEAD... BUT WHERE IS E-MAN? DID HE SOB! GIVE HIS LIFE FOR US?
DON'T CRY, HEIDI... I'M SURE HE'S ALIVE

OH, I'M OKAY. I JUST CHANGED TO ENERGY AND OOZED OUT A TEAR DUCT...
MY DADDY AND THE OTHER CITY KINGS WANT TO PRESENT YOU WITH THE KEYS TO THEIR CITIES.

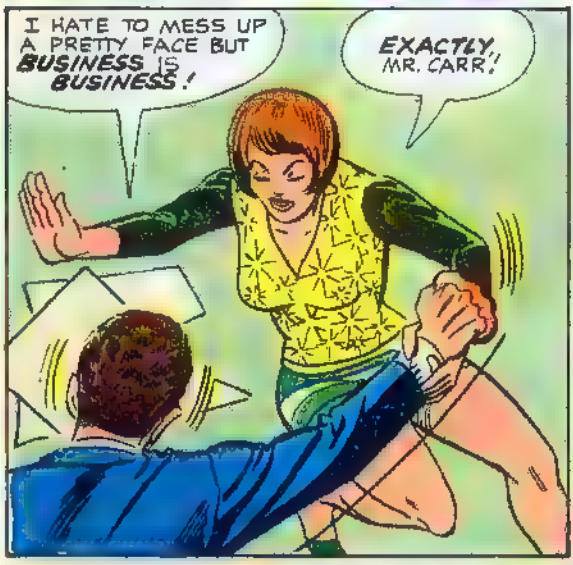

THAT'S REAL NICE AND I'M HONORED, BUT I DON'T LIKE TO BE FUSSED OVER. I JUST WANT TO GO HOME AND SEE NOVA AGAIN SHE MUST BE WORRIED ABOUT ME.
SHE WON'T WORRY. ONLY A FEW MINUTES HAVE PASSED IN YOUR WORLD. YOU'LL HARDLY BE MISSED

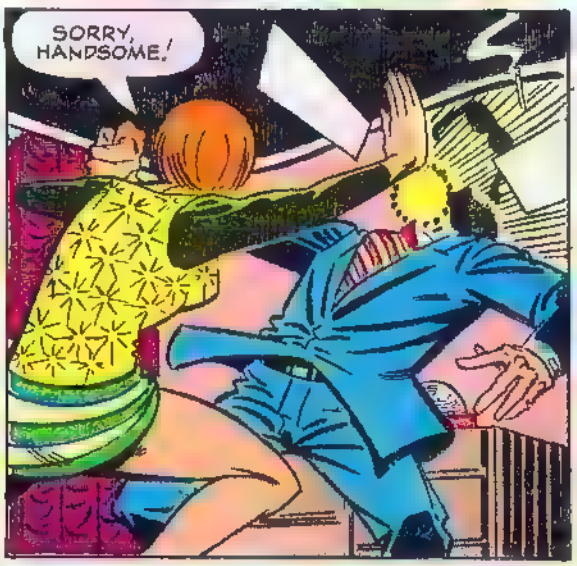

E-MAN, I'M THE ONLY ONE WHO KNOWS THE WAY OUT. COME WITH ME.
SHE LOVES ME NOW BECAUSE I RISKED MY LIFE FOR HER. I'VE GOT YOU TO THANK FOR THAT OPPORTUNITY.
NOT REALLY, BECAUSE THAT WAS YOUR OWN DECISION... BUT I CAN HELP YOU IN ONE WAY
15

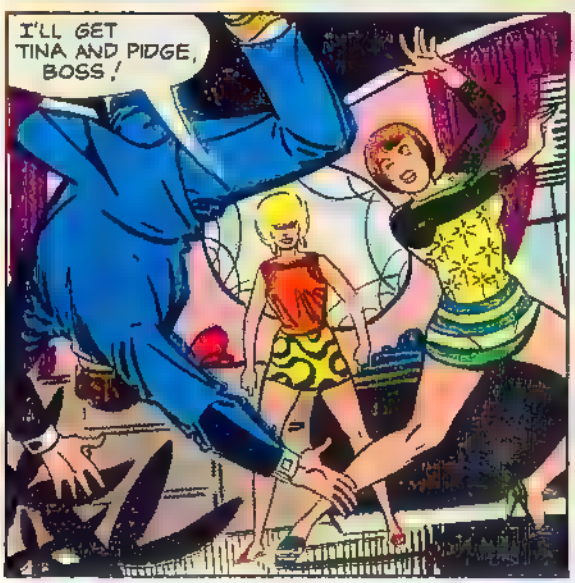
COME ON, E-MAN.
YOUR PLAN FOR UNI-CITY WAS TURNED DOWN BECAUSE OF LACK OF BUILDING MATERIAL. LOOK UP THERE AND YOU'LL SEE ALL THE MATERIAL YOU'LL NEED!
THE HIGHWAYS, OF COURSE!
WITH AIR-CARS, WE NO LONGER NEED THE HIGHWAYS!
IN A SHORT TIME THE TWO HAVE SURFACED BACK AT CONEY ISLAND BEACH.
GOOD-BYE, E-MAN. I'LL NEVER FORGET YOU.
SMAK!
mmmphh!
SO LONG, HE!..
WHAT DID YOU DO THAT FOR, NOVA?
I SAW YOU KISSING THAT LITTLE TEENY-BOPPER. I'M GONE ONLY FIVE MINUTES AND YOU DROP ME FOR THAT... THAT... MINI-MERMAID!!
BUT, NOVA, THERE WAS THIS NORWOL CALLED EMPIRET.. AND THESE CITIES FLOATING IN SPACE...
SURE, SURE, SURE.
END

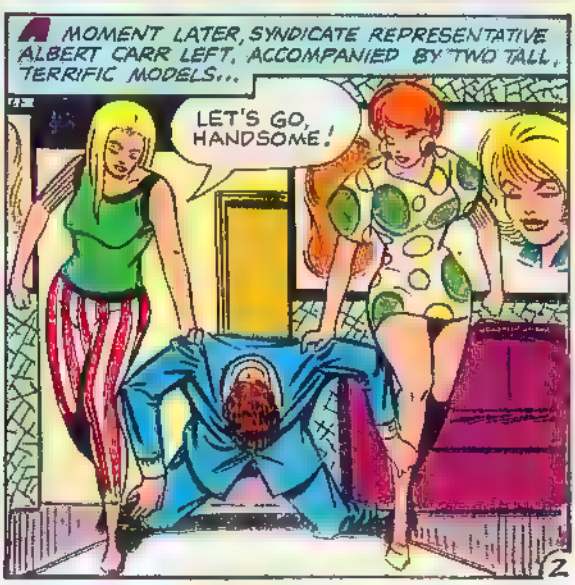

Liberty Belle in
FREEDOM'S STAR
THIS IS TO INTRODUCE CAROLINE DEAN... KNOWN TO A VERY SELECT FEW BY ANOTHER NAME... LIBERTY BELLE! MS. DEAN OPERATES A MODEL AGENCY... WHEN SHE ISN'T OPERATING ON PEOPLE LIKE NIKOLAI KALOVSKY, A CLEVER ENEMY OF FREEDOM WHO HAD SUCCESSFULLY INFILTRATED THE AMERICAN TEAM OF ASTRONAUTS! THE TEAM WAS ABOUT TO EMBARK FOR OUTER SPACE WHERE SKYLAB III WAS ORBITING THE EARTH. KALOVSKY WAS A TRAINED KILLER ...ARMED WITH A LASER-RAY GUN BUT LIBERTY BELLE POSSESSED EQUALLY POTENT WEAPONS!
YOU ARE THE ONLY AMERICAN WHO KNOWS I AM NOT... RICHARD NEAL, THE ASTRONAUT, AND NOW YOU WILL DI...
YOU TALK TOO MUCH, COMMIE... LIKE MOST OF YOUR BREED!
EDITOR... GEORGE WILDMAN
WRITER... JOE GILL
ARTIST... STEVE DITKO
D-6208

BEFORE APPEARING AT CAPE KENNEDY AS ONE OF THE SKYLAB III CREW...CAROLINE DEAN OWNED AND OPERATED THE MOST GLAMOROUS FASHION MODEL AGENCIES IN THE WORLD!
MS. DEAN, THIS IS ALBERT CARR HE INSISTED ON SEEING YOU PERSONALLY.
YOU HAD OUR FINAL OFFER, SISTER! NOW, YOU TAKE THE TWENTY-FIVE G's AND WE'RE PARTNERS, OR YOU GET MESSED UP!
REALLY, MR. CARR? I'M AWARE OF YOUR ROLE WITH THE SYNDICATE... BUT I STILL REFUSE TO ACCEPT YOUR OFFER.

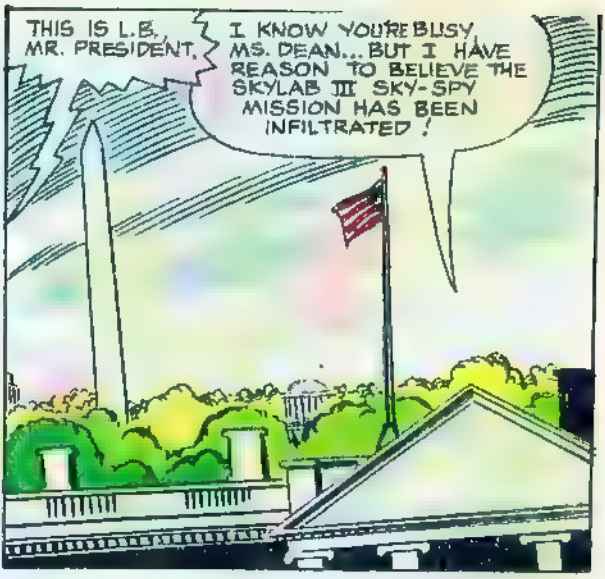

I HATE TO MESS UP A PRETTY FACE BUT BUSINESS IS BUSINESS!
EXACTLY, MR. CARR!

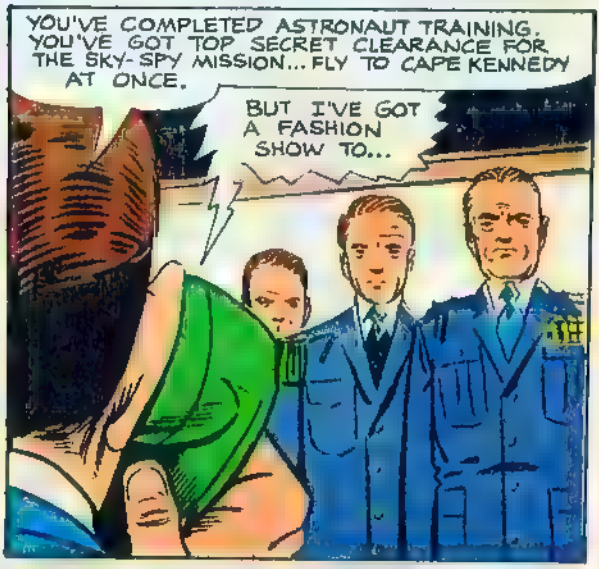

SORRY, HANDSOME!


I'LL GET TINA AND PIDGE, BOSS!


A MOMENT LATER, SYNDICATE REPRESENTATIVE ALBERT CARR LEFT, ACCOMPANIED BY TWO TALL, TERRIFIC MODELS...
LET'S GO, HANDSOME!

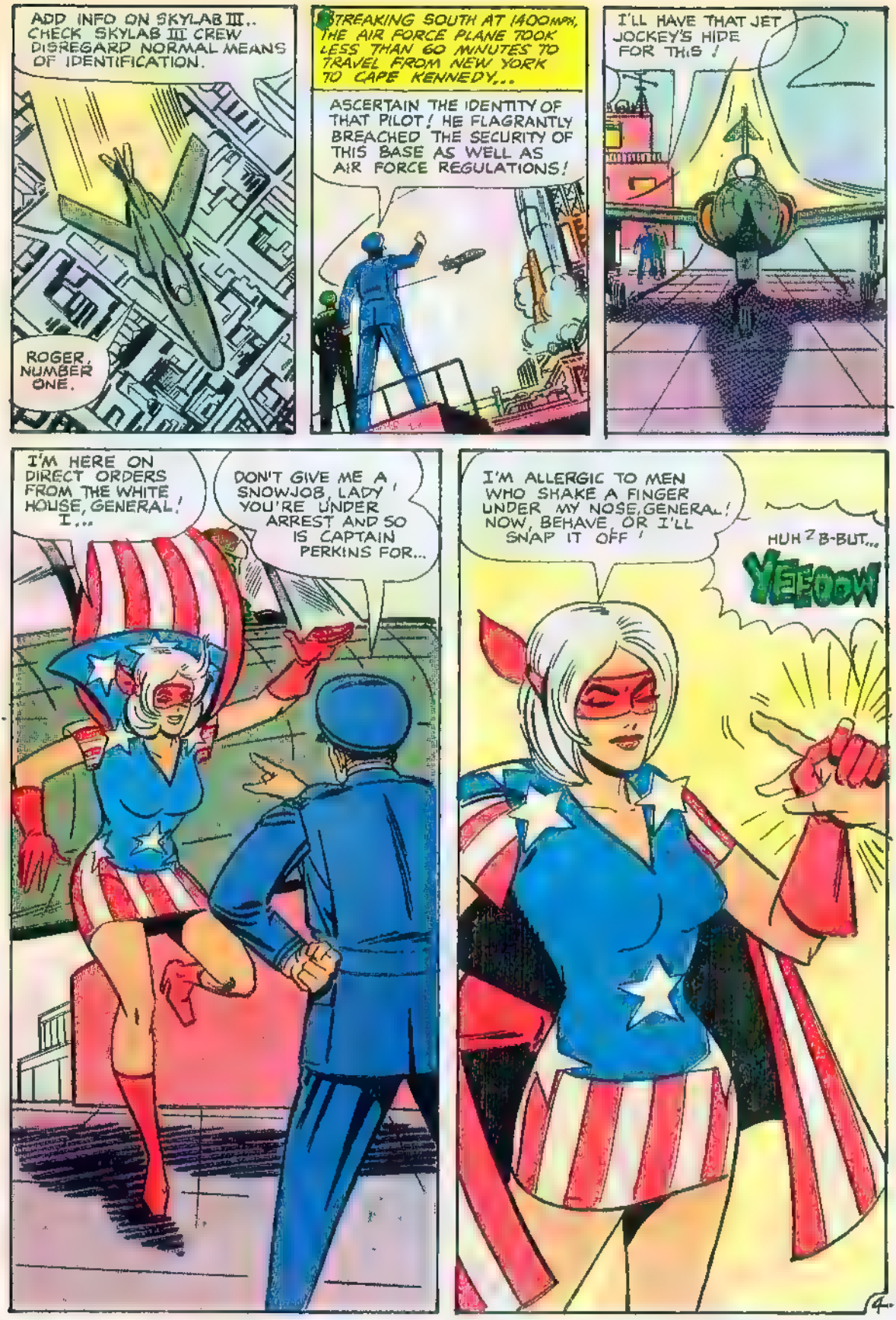
WHOEVER THAT IS, MARYANNE I DON'T WANT TO TALK! I'M DUE AT THE ACADEMY OF MARTIAL ARTS TO INSTRUCT A...
IT'S THE RED PHONE, BOSS! 1600 PENNSYLVANIA AVENUE, WASHINGTON D C MR. BIG HIMSELF!

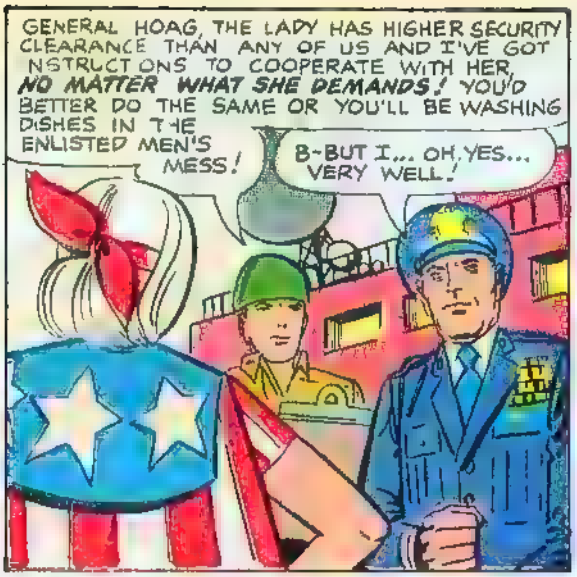

THIS IS L.B. MR. PRESIDENT.
I KNOW YOU'RE BUSY MS. DEAN... BUT I HAVE REASON TO BELIEVE THE SKYLAB III SKY-SPY MISSION HAS BEEN INFILTRATED!

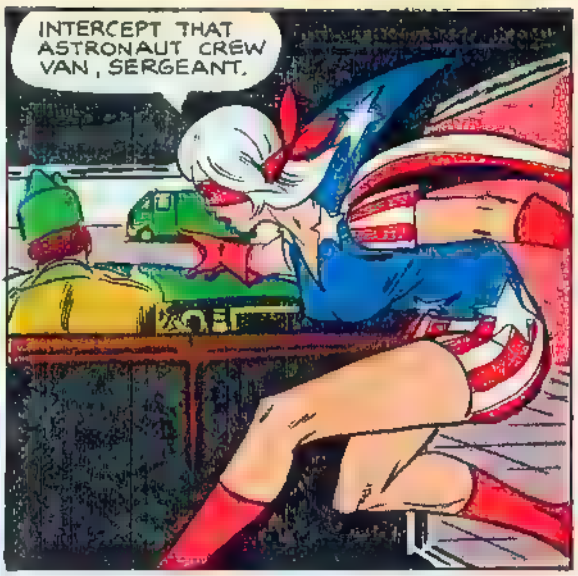

YOU'VE COMPLETED ASTRONAUT TRAINING. YOU'VE GOT TOP SECRET CLEARANCE FOR THE SKY-SPY MISSION... FLY TO CAPE KENNEDY AT ONCE.
BUT I'VE GOT A FASHION SHOW TO...

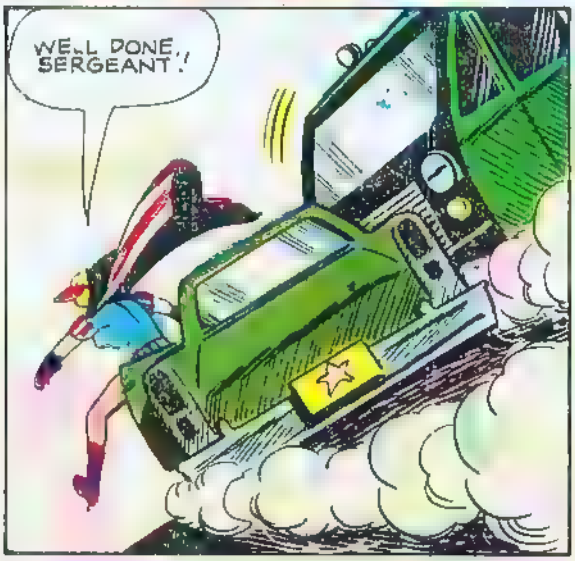
LET ME MAKE ONE THING PERFECTLY CLEAR, MS. DEAN! YOUR COUNTRY NEEDS YOU!
I M ON MY WAY, MR PRESIDENT!

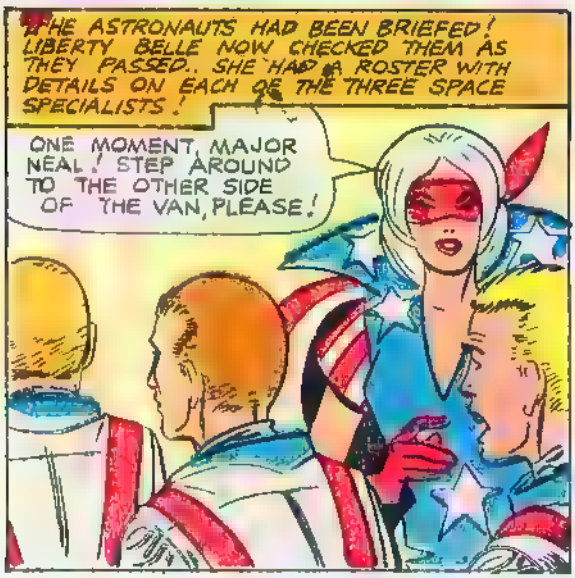
AN AIRFORCE SUPERSONIC JET WAS WAITING AT Mc GUIRE AFB AND ONE HOUR LATER...
POUR ON THE COAL, FLYBOY... I WANT TO BE IN CAPE KENNEDY BEFORE LUNCH!

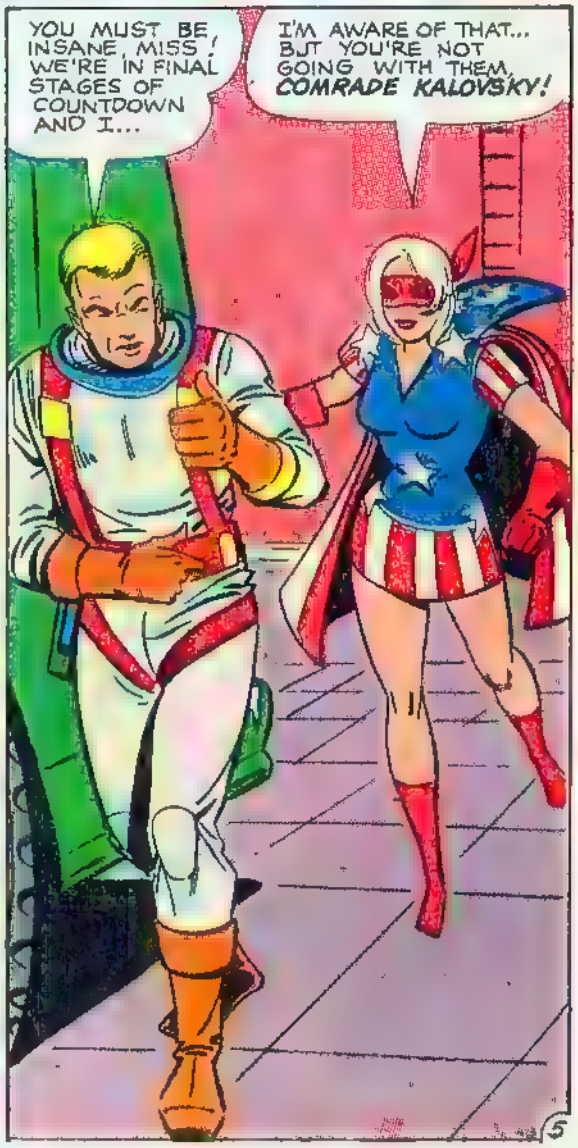

ADD INFO ON SKYLAB III.. CHECK SKYLAB III CREW DISREGARD NORMAL MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION.
ROGER, NUMBER ONE.
STREAKING SOUTH AT 1400MPH, THE AIR FORCE PLANE TOOK LESS THAN 60 MINUTES TO TRAVEL FROM NEW YORK TO CAPE KENNEDY...
ASCERTAIN THE IDENTITY OF THAT PILOT! HE FLAGRANTLY BREACHED THE SECURITY OF THIS BASE AS WELL AS AIR FORCE REGULATIONS!
I'LL HAVE THAT JET JOCKEY'S HIDE FOR THIS!
I'M HERE ON DIRECT ORDERS FROM THE WHITE HOUSE, GENERAL! I...
DON'T GIVE ME A SNOWJOB, LADY! YOU'RE UNDER ARREST AND SO IS CAPTAIN PERKINS FOR...
I'M ALLERGIC TO MEN WHO SHAKE A FINGER UNDER MY NOSE, GENERAL! NOW, BEHAVE, OR I'LL SNAP IT OFF!
HUH? B-BUT...
YEEOW
4

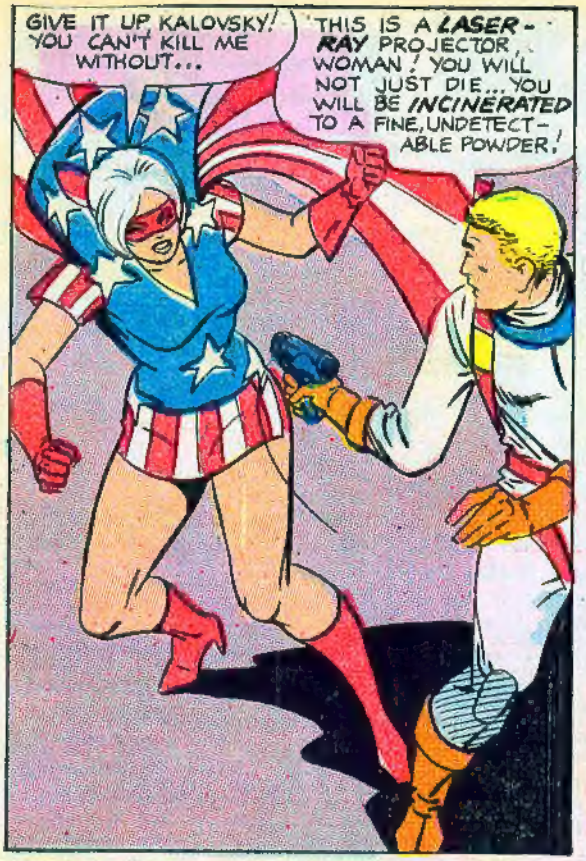

GENERAL HOAG, THE LADY HAS HIGHER SECURITY CLEARANCE THAN ANY OF US AND I'VE GOT INSTRUCTIONS TO COOPERATE WITH HER, NO MATTER WHAT SHE DEMANDS! YOU'D BETTER DO THE SAME OR YOU'LL BE WASHING DISHES IN THE ENLISTED MEN'S MESS!
B-BUT I... OH, YES... VERY WELL!

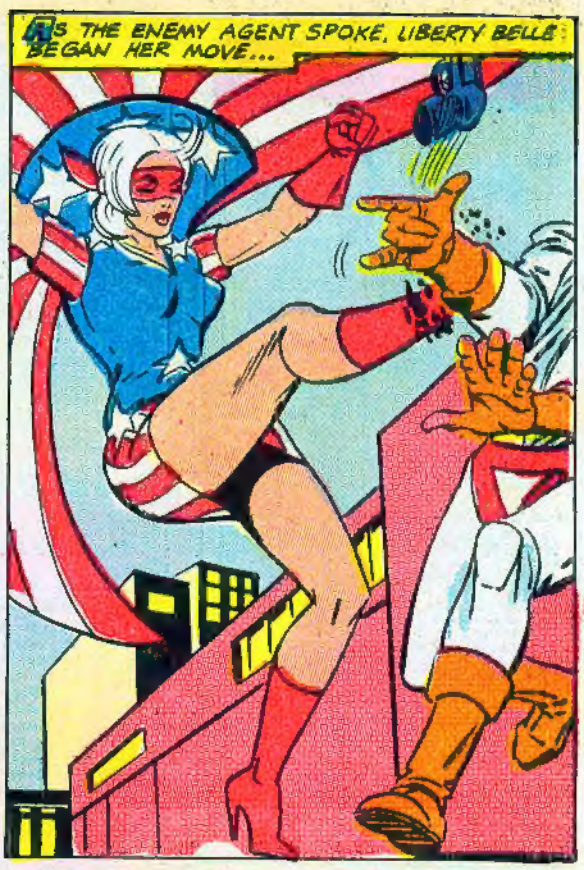

INTERCEPT THAT ASTRONAUT CREW VAN, SERGEANT.

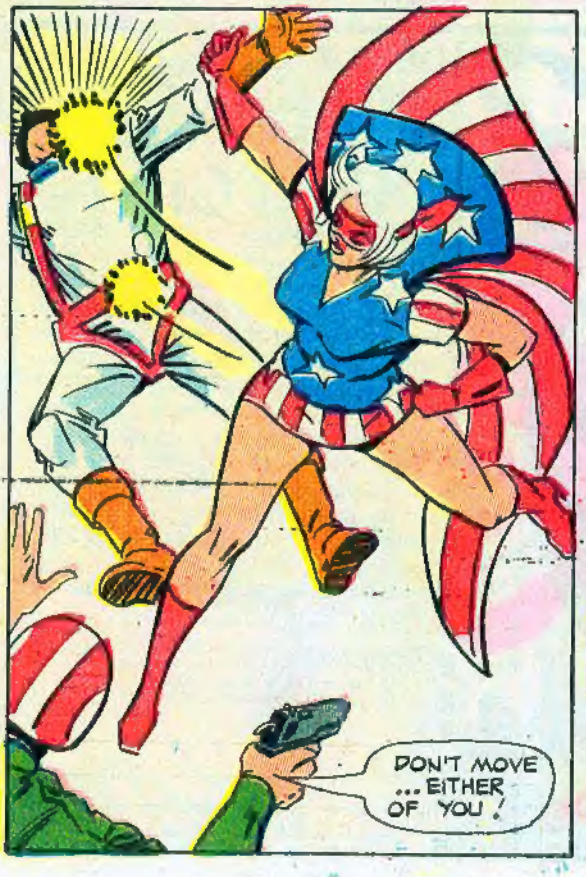

WELL DONE, SERGEANT!


THE ASTRONAUTS HAD BEEN BRIEFED! LIBERTY BELLE NOW CHECKED THEM AS THEY PASSED.. SHE HAD A ROSTER WITH DETAILS ON EACH OF THE THREE SPACE SPECIALISTS!
ONE MOMENT, MAJOR NEAL! STEP AROUND TO THE OTHER SIDE OF THE VAN, PLEASE!


YOU MUST BE INSANE, MISS! WE'RE IN FINAL STAGES OF COUNTDOWN AND I...
I'M AWARE OF THAT... BUT YOU'RE NOT GOING WITH THEM, COMRADE KALOVSKY!

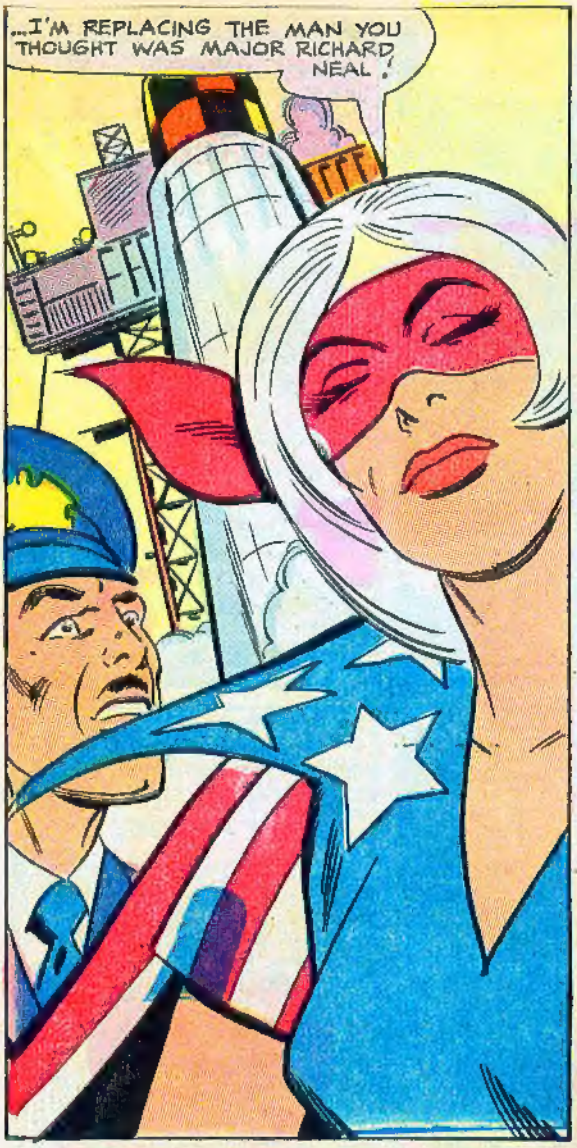

GIVE IT UP KALOVSKY! YOU CAN'T KILL ME WITHOUT...
THIS IS A LASER-RAY PROJECTOR, WOMAN! YOU WILL NOT JUST DIE... YOU WILL BE INCINERATED TO A FINE, UNDETECTABLE POWDER!

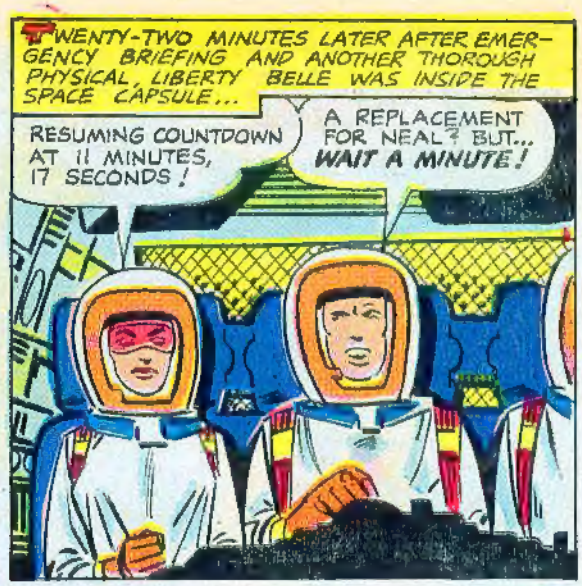


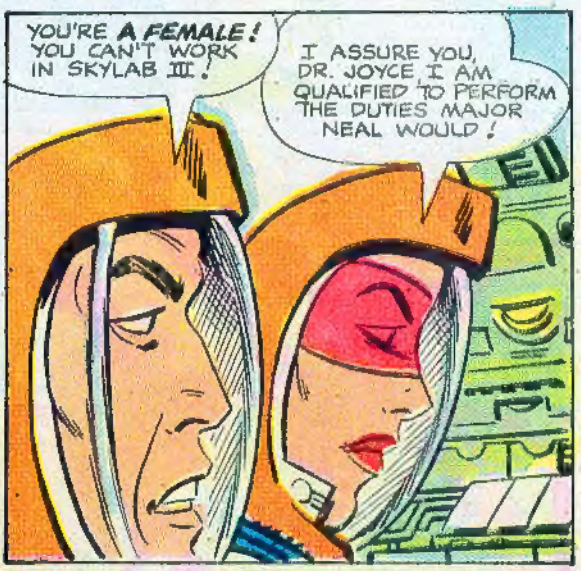


MS. LIBERTY BELLE SPOKE A FEW EFFECTIVE WORDS TO THE SPACE BASE SECURITY CHIEF WHO IN TURN CONTACTED THE PENTAGON AND...
I'VE BEEN INSTRUCTED TO TAKE MY INSTRUCTIONS FROM YOU, MISS.
EXCELLENT. I KNOW THERE'S A SPACE SUIT INSIDE THAT WILL FIT ME. IT WAS PLACED THERE IN ANTICIPATION OF THIS EMERGENCY. HOLD THE COUNTDOWN UNTIL I GET CHECKED OUT...

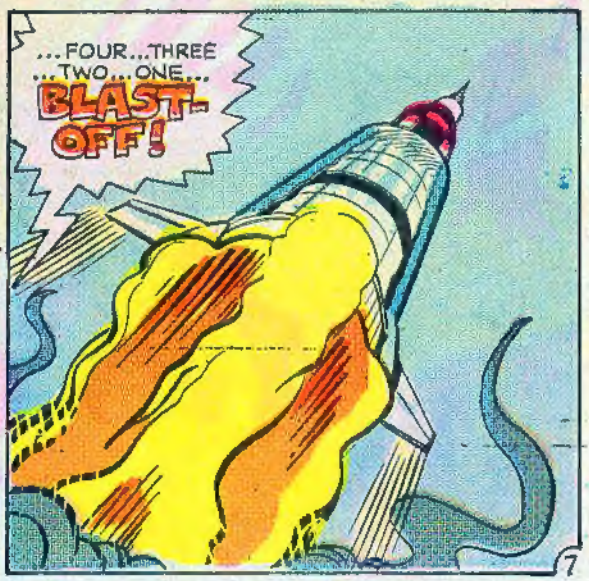
CONTINUED AFTER FOLLOWING PAGE

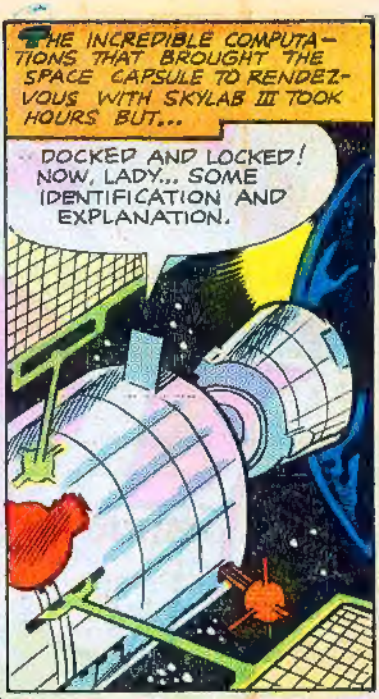

...I'M REPLACING THE MAN YOU THOUGHT WAS MAJOR RICHARD NEAL!

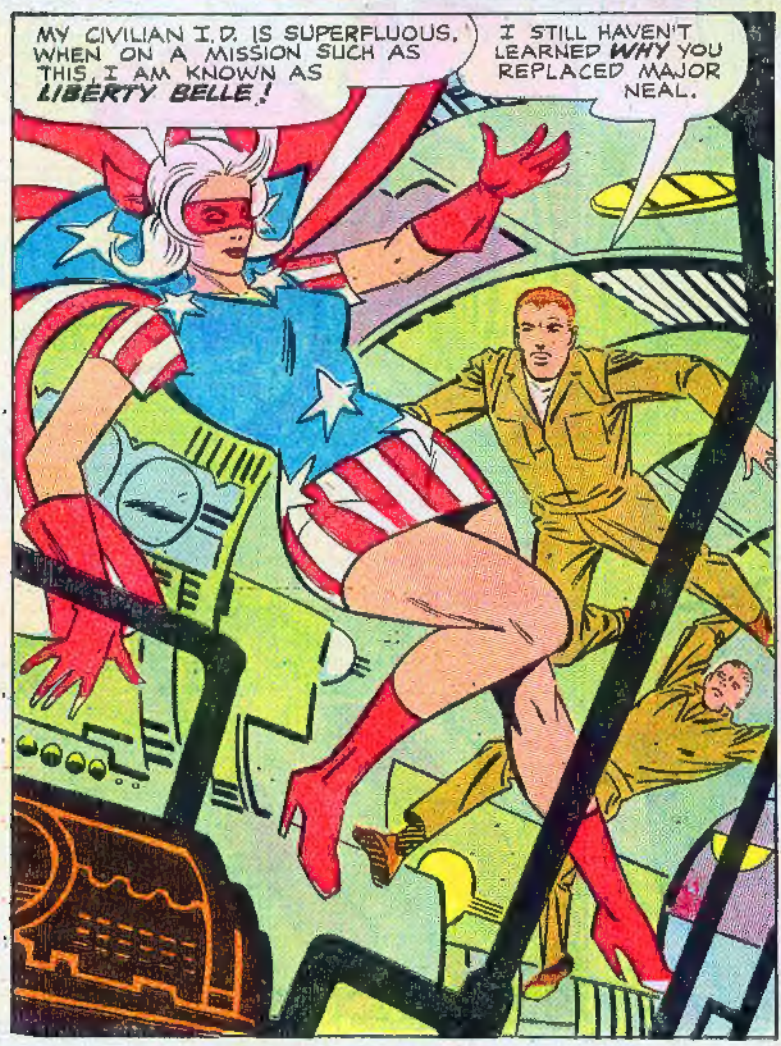

TWENTY-TWO MINUTES LATER AFTER EMERGENCY BRIEFING AND ANOTHER THOROUGH PHYSICAL, LIBERTY BELLE WAS INSIDE THE SPACE CAPSULE...
RESUMING COUNTDOWN AT 11 MINUTES, 17 SECONDS!
A REPLACEMENT FOR NEAL? BUT... WAIT A MINUTE!

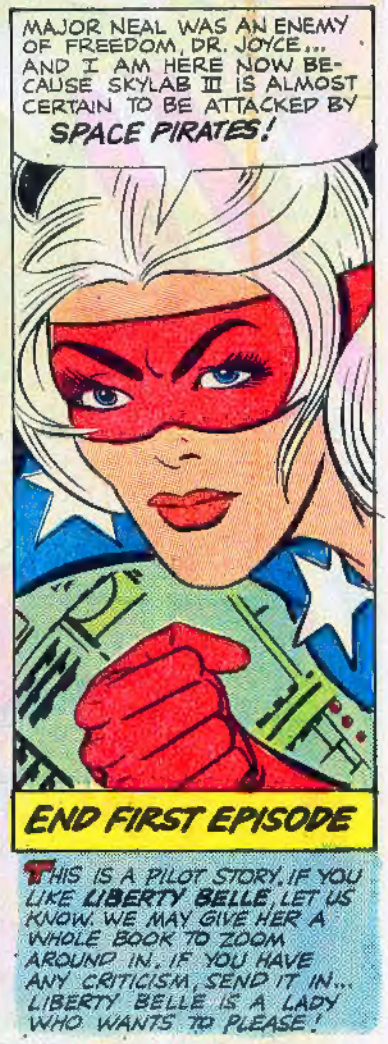

YOU'RE A FEMALE! YOU CAN'T WORK IN SKYLAB III!
I ASSURE YOU, DR. JOYCE, I AM QUALIFIED TO PERFORM THE DUTIES MAJOR NEAL WOULD!

AS SENIOR AND COMMANDER OF THIS TEAM, I'M ABORTING THIS MISSION RIGHT NOW!
TOO LATE, DR. JOYCE!


...FOUR...THREE ...TWO...ONE...
BLAST-OFF!


THE INCREDIBLE COMPUTATIONS THAT BROUGHT THE SPACE CAPSULE TO RENDEZVOUS WITH SKYLAB III TOOK HOURS BUT...
DOCKED AND LOCKED! NOW, LADY... SOME IDENTIFICATION AND EXPLANATION.


MY CIVILIAN I.D. IS SUPERFLUOUS, WHEN ON A MISSION SUCH AS THIS, I AM KNOWN AS LIBERTY BELLE!
I STILL HAVEN'T LEARNED WHY YOU REPLACED MAJOR NEAL.


MAJOR NEAL WAS AN ENEMY OF FREEDOM, DR. JOYCE... AND I AM HERE NOW BECAUSE SKYLAB III IS ALMOST CERTAIN TO BE ATTACKED BY SPACE PIRATES!

END FIRST EPISODE

THIS IS A PILOT STORY. IF YOU LIKE **LIBERTY BELLE**, LET US KNOW. WE MAY GIVE HER A WHOLE BOOK TO ZOOM AROUND IN. IF YOU HAVE ANY CRITICISM, SEND IT IN... LIBERTY BELLE IS A LADY WHO WANTS TO PLEASE!

Dear Nick,

'E—MAN' — SUPER HERO FOR THE SEVENTIES!

Nick, both 'E—Man' #2 & #3 are excellent. I like the story, and you have kept it light. You have a good variety of characters, they are well balanced and play off well against each other. I was wondering if 'Mauser' is to be a continuing character or just a one shot affair. I like the cynical contrast to the charged E—Man and struggling stripper. However one item I found offensive was the destruction of the beautiful green VW. As an owner of a bug, similiar in appearance to Mauser's I know them to be indestructible ... as, I might add, did Woody Allen in his movie "Sleeper".

I was noticing that Nova Kane carries a bag of batteries, I guess that's better than a bag of quarters! Did you ever try to sell E—Man to someone like Ray-O-Vac or Duracell as a trademark or emblem?

You have a real good artist in Staton. I like his attention to detail. I find myself reading the scraps of paper in the drawings. He has a fine touch for the small things such as the rat next to the rail in the subway tunnel, very good.

Nick, I think you've got a winner this time. This character is far better than anything you've done before.

I am working on a super hero myself. He shall be known as 'Cog-Man', who in every day life is a humble, black lunch pail carrying, industrial worker. But, who, when enraged by the massive profits, made at the expense of the little man or maddened by industrial pollution, turns into a chipped cog and messes up the works. I can see it now; mounted atop his blasting 'safety' yellow fork truck he fights a never ending battle for human decency in industry. Dressed in workman's blue, muscles bulging, safety toe shoes kicking, he strikes terror in the hearts of middle management throughout the land, in wayward factories, the robber baron's cringe in fear of his earth shaking battle cry.

By the way, I was trying to figure out just what your market area is for 'E-Man'. By this I mean, what age bracket are you geared for? With the content of your stories you're not aiming at the uneducated. Since the content does require a certain sophistication on the reader's part, have you ever considered doing a paper back containing maybe eight 'E-Man' scripts? It might broaden your market.

Got to close for now.

Peace,
George Daily
Indianapolis, Indiana

Greetings, Mr. Wildman:

I just thought I should sit down and express my feelings about this great new character, E-Man, and his comic book. I could just say that he's one of the best characters to appear in '73 (and so far '74), but I think I should go into more elaboration.

First off, the art is simply fantastic on E-Man. Joe Staton is the pride of your fold. He may not be as well known as some that work for the larger companies, but he draws every bit as good — he's got style. I'd rather look at a Joe Staton story than almost anyone else who draws comics.

Next of mention is the writing. Some tend to overlook the writer and concentrate on the artist when praising a book. But, if a book is really worth praise, the author deserves a lot of the credit too. That's the way it is with the scripting on the E-Man strip. A fine job of writing is to be found here. Mr. Cuti has really developed the character of E-Man, and I will go out on a limb and say that I think he has, and is doing, a better job than most could. The dialogue is light and just floats along. This suits the characters and plot well. He has shown E-Man as sort of a child in his new surroundings — innocent and eager to learn. I also love the names he manages to give his characters, such as Nova Kane and Alec Tronn. What all this boils down to is that Mr. Cuti is trying to show us another version of what happens when a space-born hero meets earth and its people and its problems and its joys, etc., etc. Mr. Cuti's version seems more believable to me.

One last point I would like to make concerns your subscription policy. Whey I subscribed to E-Man a while back I really did it for the little artist/writer/letterer handbook thing. I had never subscribed to a Charlton comic before, and I expected you to do like your competitors and *fold* the comic in half before mailing it. So, I thoroughly expected to be running all over town trying to find a collectible copy. I must say that I was stunned when E-Man #3 arrived in *an envelope and unfolded*! I feel this is a big plus for the collector since it delivers the comix to his door in mint shape and saves him the trouble of running around town searching for an unmangled copy of his favorite comic. You ought to play this point up in your subscription ads. Another good point is that by subscribing for a year you actually save a quarter, which is like getting one comic free. I didn't mean to sound like some guy from Madison Avenue, but I think your subscription policy deserved mentioning.

Keep up the good work on E-Man and all your other publications.

Thanx,
Rick K. Morgan
Richfield, N.C.

Address all correspondences to:

E-MAIL
Charlton Publications
Charlton Building
Derby, Connecticut